

REMARKS

Applicant has carefully reviewed and considered the Office Action of February 16, 2006, including the cited prior art. In response to the Office Action, Applicant has amended independent claims 1 and 21 to overcome Examiner's rejections of these claims. In addition, Applicant has canceled claims 41 and 46, and amended those claims dependent on them to update their dependency. In view of the amendments to claims 1 and 21 and the remarks which follow, Applicant believes that this application is in condition for allowance, and accordingly, requests issuance of a timely Notice of Allowance.


Claims 1 and 21 stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as unpatentable over Zinsmeyer (USPN 5,163,586)("the '586 patent") in view of Schroeder (USPN 6,535,795)("the '795 patent"). The '586 patent discloses an automotive fuel additive dispensing and blending system. The '586 patent also discloses a housing, a hydraulic module, control circuitry, a sensor, and processing circuitry. The '586 patent further discloses that "the fuel dispenser computer may be connected and programmed to interact with a remote operator terminal and other modern service station transaction equipment." Col. 5, Lines 4-7. The '795 patent discloses a method for chemical addition utilizing adoptive process control optimizations. The '795 patent also discloses the use of historical data to adjust the amount of chemicals added to an end product. However, neither the '586 patent nor the '795 patent disclose a network connection for the transmission of billing information to a point-of-sale system, which is required by both claims 1 and 21 in their amended form. Applicant respectfully submits that as all elements of claims 1 and 21 are not disclosed by the combined disclosures of the '586 patent and the '795 patent, an obviousness rejection based on these patents cannot be sustained. Further, as all other claims are dependent on either claims 1 or 21, if Examiner should find these claims allowable, the remaining claims should be allowed as well.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that in light of the amendments to claims 1 and 21 and the argument set forth in this response, this application is now in condition for allowance, and respectfully requests that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued. However, should Examiner be of the opinion that further amendment or response is required; Applicant encourages Examiner to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number set forth below. Further, although no additional fees are believed to be due at this time, the Commissioner is authorized to charge any additional fees or deficiencies or credit any overpayments to Cook, Alex, McFarron, Manzo, Cummings & Mehler, Ltd., Deposit Account No. 50-1039 with reference to attorney docket number (1455-0005).

Respectfully submitted,

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